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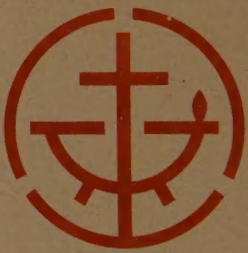

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CATECHISM

OF THE

Free Methodist Church

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CATECHISM

OF THE

FREE METHODIST CHURCH

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED
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PREFACE.

THE Catechism which we herewith present to our people has been submitted for publication by the four General Superintendents of the denomination, in accordance with their appointment by the General Conference of 1898 as a committee to prepare such a work for the church. We trust it will satisfy a long-felt want, and that, in accordance with the original recommendation of the General Conference concerning the publication of such a work, adopted in 1890, it will soon come into general use "in all our Sunday-schools, seminaries and home circles."

THE PUBLISHERS.

CATECHISM.

I. GOD.

1.—Nature and Attributes.

1. *What is the first truth taught in the Bible?*

That there is a God.—Gen. 1:1.

2. *Who is God?*

The Maker of all things.—Gen. 1:1.

3. *What is God?*

An uncreated Spirit.—John 4:24.

4. *Where is God?*

God is everywhere.—1 Kings 8:27 and Jer. 23:24.

5. *If God is everywhere why do we not see him?*

Because he is a pure Spirit and cannot be seen with bodily eyes. [John 4:24, Exodus 33:20.

6. *Does God see us?*

God sees us and watches over us always.—Gen. 16:13; 2 Chron. 16:9.

7. *What does God know?*

God knows all things, even the thoughts of our hearts. [Acts 15:18; Prov. 15:3; Job 34:21.

8. *What can God do?*

God is almighty and can do whatsoever he will.—Gen. 17:1; Dan. 4:35.

9. *How long has God existed?*

God had no beginning; he has lived always and will live forever.—Psa. 90:1, 2.

10. *What is the character of God?*

"God is love."—1 John 4:16.

11. *Is God holy?*

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God of hosts."—Isa. 6:3.

12. *Is God a merciful Being?*

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy."—Psa. 103:8.

13. *Is God just or righteous?*

"He is a just God and a Savior."—Isa. 45:21.

14. *Is God true?*

"He is a God of truth and without iniquity."—Deut. 32:4.

2.—Unity and Trinity.

15. *Are there more Gods than one?*

"There is none other God but one."—Mark 12:29; 1 Cor. 8:6.

16. *How many persons are there in God?*

In God there are three divine Persons, really distinct, and equal in all things—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.—Matt. 28:19.

17. *Is the Father God?*

"To us there is but one God, the Father."—1 Cor. 8:6.

18. *Is the Son God?*

Jesus Christ "is over all God blessed forever."—Rom. 9:5; Phil. 2:5, 6.

19. *Is the Holy Ghost God?*

The Holy Ghost is God since he is "the eternal Spirit."

[Heb. 9:14.

20. *Are these three divine persons one and the same God?*

The three divine Persons are one and the same God, equal in all things, and having one and the same divine nature and substance.—Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14.

21. *What do you mean by the Blessed Trinity?*

By the Blessed Trinity I mean one God in three divine Persons.

22. *Can we fully understand how the three divine persons are one and the same God?*

We cannot; it is a mystery to be received by faith.—1 Tim. 3:16.

23. *What is a mystery?*

A mystery is a truth that cannot be fully understood.

24. *Into what name are Christians baptized.*

Into the name of the Holy Trinity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.—Matt. 28:19.

II.—CREATION.

1.—The World.

25. *Can you repeat the first verse of the Bible?*

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

[Gen. 1:1.

26. *How did God create the heaven and the earth?*

God created the heaven and the earth by his word or decree. "He spake and it was done, he commanded and it stood fast."—Psa. 33:9.

27. *Does God preserve all things which he has made?*

He "upholdeth all things by the word of his power."—Isa. 40:26; Heb. 1:3.

28. *For what purpose did God make the world?*

God made the world to show forth his own glory and for the happy abode of mankind.

[Rev. 4:11; Psa. 115:16.

2.—Man.

29. *What was the last and most glorious work of God's creation?*

The last and most glorious work of God's creation was man.

30. *How did God make man?*

He formed his body of the dust of the ground, then breathed into him the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

[Gen. 2:7.

31. *Of how many parts is man made?*

Man is made of two parts, a soul and a body.—Gen. 2:7; Matt. 10:28.

32. *How do the soul and body differ?*

The body is material and mortal, the soul is spiritual and immortal.—Ecclesiastes 12:7.

33. *Was the body of man created mortal?*

It was not. Death came into the world through sin.—Rom. 5:12.

34. *What will become of the soul when the body dies?*

When the body dies the soul or spirit will return to God who gave it. It cannot die like the body.—Ecclesiastes 12:7.

35. *For what end was man created?*

"To glorify God and to enjoy him forever."—Gen. 1:27; Eph. 1:5, 6; 1 Peter 5:10.

36. *Was man created holy?*

He was; God made man in his own image—"in righteousness and true holiness."—Gen. 1:27; Eph. 4:24.

37. *Where did God place man when he had created him?*

In the garden of Eden.—Gen. 2:8.

38. *What law was given to man in Eden?*

The law of perfect obedience. [Gen. 2:16, 17

39. *What names were given to our first parents in Eden?*

The man was called Adam and the woman Eve.—Gen. 2:19 and 3:20.

40. *What authority did God give man at his creation?*

God gave him dominion over every living thing.—Psa. 8:6-8.

3.—Angels.

41. *What other glorious beings has God created besides man?*

Angels.

42. *Who are the angels?*

They are pure spirits, without body, who dwell before the throne of God, adore and worship him, and act as his messengers.—Psa. 104:4; Isa. 6:3, 4; Psa. 103:20.

43 *Do the angels ever visit this world?*

They do. They have often been sent as messengers of God to men. They are also our guardians and ministering spirits."—Heb. 1:13, 14.

44. *Were the angels, as God created them, all good and happy?*

The angels, as God created them, were all good and happy.

[Job 38:7; Psa. 148:2.

45. *Did all the angels remain good and happy?*

They did not; many of them sinned, and were cast down to hell, and these are now called devils, or evil angels.

[2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6; Matt. 25:41.

III.—THE FALL.

1.—Sin.

46. *What command did God give to Adam and Eve in Eden?*

God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat of the fruit of a certain tree that grew in the midst of the garden.—Gen. 3:3.

47. *Why did God give them such a command?*

To test their obedience.

48. *Did Adam and Eve always obey the command which God gave them in Eden?*

Adam and Eve were not always obedient to God; they broke his command by eating the forbidden fruit.—Gen. 3:6.

49. *By whom were Adam and Eve tempted to disobey God?*

By the devil in the form of a serpent.—Gen. 3:4, 5.

50. *Was it necessary for Adam and Eve to disobey God because they were tempted?*

It was not; they had perfect freedom to obey or disobey God at their own choice.

51. *What did Adam and Eve become through their disobedience of God's command?*

Through their disobedience of

God's command Adam and Eve became sinners.

52. *What is sin?*

Sin is any transgression of, or any want of conformity to, the law of God.—1 John 3: 4 and 5: 17.

2.—Consequences of Sin.

53. *What evil did Adam and Eve bring upon themselves by disobeying God?*

They lost their innocence and holiness, were driven out of Eden, made to labor hard, and caused to suffer sorrow, pain and death.—Gen. 3: 16-19, 22-24.

54. *What evil did the sin of Adam and Eve bring upon the world of mankind?*

Because of the sin of Adam and Eve all men are born in a state of sin and misery, and are subject to pain and death.

[Rom. 5: 12.

55. *What further evils does sin bring upon men than sorrow, pain and death in this world?*

Sin brings upon all men the wrath and curse of God, and exposes them to eternal punishment in the world to come.

[Rom. 1: 18; 2 Thess. 1: 9.

IV.—THE LAW OF GOD.

1.—The Rule of Obedience.

56. *What does God require of men?*

Obedience to his revealed will.

[Ecclesiastes 12:13; Deut. 11:26-28.

57. *What is the perfect rule of our obedience?*

The moral law.—Psa. 19:7.

58. *Where is the moral law given?*

In the Ten Commandments.

[Exod. 20:3-17.

59. *What is the character of the moral law?*

"The Law of the Lord is perfect"; it is "holy, just and good."

[Psalm 19:7 and Rom. 7:12.

2.—Contents of the Law.

60. *What is the first commandment?*

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

61. *What is the second commandment?*

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the

Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

62. *What is the third commandment?*

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

63 *What is the fourth commandment?*

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six

days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

64. *What is the fifth commandment?*

"Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

65. *What is the sixth commandment?*

"Thou shalt not kill."

66. *What is the seventh commandment?*

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."

67. *What is the eighth commandment?*

"Thou shalt not steal."

68. *What is the ninth commandment?*

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

69. *What is the tenth commandment?*

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his

maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's."

3.—The Law as Taught in the New Testament.

70. *How are the ten commandments summed up in the New Testament?*

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."—Matt. 22:37-40.

71. *How are the commandments explained in the New Testament?*

Jesus teaches that they forbid sinful thoughts as well as sinful actions.—Matt. 15:19, 20.

72. *Can any one be saved by keeping the law?*

No. "By the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified." [Rom. 3:20.

73. *For what then is the law given?*

To convince men of sin and

make men feel the need of a Savior.—Rom. 3:20 and 7:7.

V.—SALVATION.

1.—Source and Grounds of Salvation.

74. *Did God leave mankind to perish after sin entered the world?*

He did not, but promised him a Savior.—Gen. 3:15.

75. *Why did not God forsake man after he fell into sin?*

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

76. *What did the Son of God do to save mankind?*

He became man, lived, suffered, died, rose again, and ascended into heaven.—1 Tim. 3:16.

77. *What do the Scriptures teach concerning the nature of Jesus Christ?*

The Scriptures teach that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the second Person in the Blessed Trinity, true God and true man. [John 1:1 and 14.

78. *Was Jesus Christ always God?*

Jesus Christ being the second Person in the Blessed Trinity, and equal to his Father from all eternity, was always God. [Isa. 9:6.

79. *Was Jesus Christ always man?*

Jesus Christ was not always man, but became man at the time of his Incarnation. [John 1:14.

80. *What do you mean by the Incarnation?*

I mean by the Incarnation that the Son of God became man.

81. *How did the Son of God become man?*

The Son of God was made man by taking to himself a true body and soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary, but without sin.—Luke 1:35; Gal. 4:4, 5.

82. *Has Jesus Christ two natures?*

Jesus Christ has two natures, the nature of God and the nature of man.—Col. 2:9.

83. *Is Jesus Christ more than one person?*

Jesus Christ is but one divine Person.—John 10:30.

84. *How does the life of Christ benefit us?*

It furnishes an example of perfect goodness and holiness.

[Acts 10:38; Phil. 2:5-8.

85. *How did Christ redeem us?*

By suffering and dying for us.

[Titus 2:14.

86. *Why was it necessary that Christ should suffer and die?*

That he might offer to divine justice a full atonement or satisfaction for the sins of the world.—Rom 3:25, 26.

87. *By what power did Christ arise from the dead?*

Christ arose from the dead by his own divine power.—John 10:18.

88. *How are we benefited by the resurrection of Christ?*

He arose for our justification, and as the pledge of our resurrection from the dead.

[Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:20.

89. *Where did Jesus go after his resurrection?*

He lived on the earth forty days, and then ascended into heaven, where he ever liveth to make intercession for us.

[Acts 1:3; Luke 24:51, Heb. 7:25.

90. *Did the sufferings and death of Christ make atonement for all mankind?*

It did. "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."—1 John 2:2.

2.—Conditions of Salvation.

91. *Will all men be saved because Christ died for all?*

They will not. "He that believeth, and is baptized shall be saved; and he that believeth not, shall be damned."—Mark 16:16.

92. *Will those who die in childhood, before they know good from evil, be saved?*

They will. Jesus says, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven."

[Matt. 19:14.

93. *Will any of the people be saved who lived before Christ was made man?*

Yes; all who believed in the promised Redeemer and walked in the way of God's commandments will be saved.

[Acts 17:30 and 14:16.

94. *Why will not all men be saved?*

Because they will not all meet the conditions on which salvation is given.—John 5:40.

95. *What are the conditions of salvation to such as know good from evil?*

The conditions of salvation to those who know good from evil are "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."—Acts 20:21.

96. *What is repentance?*

Repentance is a godly sorrow on account of sin.—2 Cor. 7:10.

97. *How is true repentance shown?*

By forsaking all sin and turning wholly to God for mercy. [Isa. 55.

98. *What is faith in Jesus Christ?*

Faith in Jesus Christ is the act of receiving and trusting in him alone for salvation.

[John 1:12; Phil. 3:9.

99. *Can sinners repent and believe of themselves?*

They cannot; the disposition and power to repent is wrought in them by God.—Eph. 2:8; Rom. 11:20.

100. *How can we know when we savingly believe in Jesus?*

"He that believeth hath the witness in himself."—1 John 5:10.

101. *What is this witness?*

God's Spirit testifying with our

own spirit that we are children of God.—Rom. 8: 16.

3.—Fruits of Salvation.

102. *What fruits are produced by saving faith in Christ?*

Justification, regeneration, sanctification.—Rom. 5:1; John 1:12; Gal. 2:16; 2 Thess. 2:13.

103. *What is justification?*

Justification is that act of God's free grace in which he pardons our sins and accepts us as righteous for the sake of Christ.—Eph. 1:7; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 3:24; 5:19.

104. *What is regeneration?*

Regeneration is that change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit whereby the sinner is born anew in the image of Christ and made a child of God.—Eph. 1:5; John 1:12, 13; 3:3; Eph. 4:24.

105. *What is sanctification?*

Sanctification is that act of God's grace whereby we are made holy in heart and life.

[1 Thess. 5:23; Eph. 1:4; Col. 1:22; Heb. 13:12.

106. *May all believers be sanctified wholly in this life?*

They may. "This is the will

of God, even your sanctification." "The God of peace himself sanctify you wholly."
[1 Pet. 1:16; 1 Thess. 4:3; 1 John 1:9.

107. *What is implied in Christian perfection or entire sanctification?*

Loving God with the whole heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving one's neighbor as himself.—Matt. 22:37-40.

4.—Extent of Salvation.

108. *Is it possible for justified or sanctified souls to fall from grace?*

It is. Even St. Paul feared lest, after having preached to others, he himself should be a castaway.—1 Cor. 9:27.

109. *May justified and sanctified souls be kept from falling?*

Yes; Jesus, our great high-priest, is able to keep them from falling, and to present them faultless before the throne of God.—Heb. 7:25; Jude 24:25.

110. *How should we guard against falling from grace?*

By constantly watching, pray-

ing and trusting in our Lord and Savior.—Col. 4:2; Heb. 3:14.

VI.—THE MEANS OF GRACE.

1.—Church and Ministry.

111. *What are the principal means of grace?*
The Church, the sacraments, the word of God and prayer.

112. *In what two forms does the church exist?*
Visible and invisible.

113. *What is the visible church?*
The visible church is a congregation of faithful men among whom the pure word of God is preached and the sacraments duly administered according to the ordinance of Christ.

114. *What is the invisible church?*
The invisible church is the whole body of God's people in all ages.

115. *Ought those to whom the gospel is preached to become believers in Christ and members of his church?*
They ought; in order to have

visible union with Christ, the Head of the church, and communion with his people.

116. *Who are proper persons to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments?*

Holy men, called of God and set apart by the church to the office and work of the ministry.

2.—The Sacraments.

117. *What is a sacrament?*

A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.

118. *How many sacraments has Christ ordained in his church?*

Two: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

(1) BAPTISM.

119. *What is the sign in baptism?*

Water applied in the threefold name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

[Matt. 28:19.

120. *What is the inward grace signified in baptism?*

Death to sin and newness or holiness of life.—Rom. 6:4.

121. *What advantages does baptism secure to its subjects?*

Admission to the visible church of Christ, and confirmation of their relation to him as Mediator of the new covenant and of their title to all spiritual blessings belonging thereto.

(2) THE LORD'S SUPPER.

122. *For what end was the Lord's Supper ordained?*

To be a constant memorial of his death as a sacrifice for our sins, and of the benefits which we may receive therefrom through faith.

123. *What is the outward sign of the Lord's Supper?*

Bread and wine partaken according to Christ's appointment.—Matt. 26:26-28.

124. *What is the inward grace signified by the Lord's Supper?*

The partaking of the body and blood of Christ after a spiritual manner by faith, whereby the soul is nourished and strengthened to do his will.—1 Cor. 10:16, 17.

3.—The Word of God and Prayer.

125. *From what source is all true knowledge of religious truth and duty derived?*

From the Bible.—2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

126. *What is the Bible?*

The Bible is the book in which God has revealed his truth and recorded his will.

127. *What is the only sufficient rule of faith and practice?*

The Holy Scriptures as contained in the Old and New Testaments.

128. *How should we use the Holy Scriptures?*

We should reverently, constantly and prayerfully study them that we may properly understand, believe and practice their requirements.

[John 5:39; 1 Pet. 2:1, 2.

129. *What is prayer?*

Prayer is the offering of our desires to God in the name of Christ.

130. *What other spiritual exercises should always accompany prayer?*

Humble confession of sin, devout thanksgiving for divine

mercies and the appropriation of God's promises by faith.

131. *In what special places should we offer up our prayers?*

In the public assembly within God's house, in the more private family circle, and in the solitude of our own closets.

132. *What special model of prayer is given us in the New Testament?*

The Lord's prayer.—Matt. 6:9-13.

133. *Can you repeat the Lord's prayer?*

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

VII.—DEATH, JUDGMENT AND ETERNITY.

134. *Are we to live always in this world?*

No; life is short and uncertain, and we all must die.—Psa. 89:48; Rom. 5:12.

135. *Is death an enemy to be feared?*

Death is an enemy to be feared by all men except those who truly believe in Jesus.—1 Cor. 15:26; Heb. 2:14,15.

136. *Why do not Christians fear to die?*

Because the sting of death was removed when their sins were forgiven, and Christ's resurrection from the dead gives them assurance of everlasting life.

[1 Cor. 15:56, 57.

137. *How long will the bodies of those who die remain in the ground?*

Until Jesus comes to raise the dead and judge the world.

[John 5:28, 29.

138. *Will all men be judged for the deeds done in the body?*

Yes; "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his

body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."—2 Cor. 5:10.

139. *What will the judge say to the wicked?*

"Depart ye cursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."—Matt. 25:41.

140. *What will he say to the righteous?*

"Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."—Matt. 25:34.

141. *What will then take place?*

The earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up, and the wicked shall go into eternal punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

[2 Pet. 3:10 and Matt. 25:46.

APPENDIX.

I. THE BEATITUDES.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. —Matt. 5:3-10.

II. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jeal-

ous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's.

III. BAPTISMAL COVENANT.

I renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that I will not follow nor be led by them.

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I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic* church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Having been baptized in this faith, I will obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life, God being my helper.

IV. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

EXAMPLES OF PRAYER FOR THE YOUNG.

MORNING PRAYER.

Almighty God, my heavenly Father, I thank thee that thou hast taken care of me the past

*By the holy catholic Church is meant the Church of God in general.

night, and that I am alive and well this morning. Save me, O God, from evil all this day; and may I love and serve thee always. Bestow on me, I pray thee, every good thing which I need for my body and soul; assist me by thy Holy Spirit to do thy will; make me always afraid to offend thee, and let me live in thy fear and die in thy favor, and at last be saved in heaven, for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

O Lord God, who knowest all things, thou seest me by night as well as by day. I pray thee, for Christ's sake, forgive me whatever I have done amiss this day, and keep me safe all night. Bless, I beseech thee, all my friends; *do good to them at all times and in all places, and help me always to serve them in love. And when I have done thy will here, by thy grace assisting me, may I be fully prepared for death and the world to come, through Christ my blessed Savior and Redeemer. *Amen.*

A SHORT PRAYER ON RETIRING TO REST.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take. *Amen.*

*Here mention father and mother, and others.

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